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SUBJ: UN COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING - FEBRUARY 24

1. SUMMARY: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING HEARD STATEMENTS BY BULGARIAN, USSR, INDIAN AND BELGIAN DELS AND BY GEORGE DAVIDSON, UN UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU) AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP). END SUMMARY

2. BULGARIAN REP STRESSED COMMON EASTERN EUROPEAN THEMES REGARDING THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE AND SECURITY; THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UN CHARTER, NIEO, AND CERDS AS THE FOUNDATIONS FOR RESTRUCTURING; AND THE NEED TO TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF RESTRUCTURING.

3. USSR REP RESTATED COMMON EASTERN EUROPEAN THEMES WITH ESPECIALLY STRONG EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF CONSIDERING FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS. RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE SHOULD BE CONFINED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ECOSOC, OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND RELATED SECRETARIAT CHANGES.

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4. INDIA: DEPUTY PERM REP HASHMI SAID EXPERTS' REPORT IS

GOOD STARTING POINT. HE CALLED FOR: (A) "CLARITY OF COMPETENCES" BETWEEN VARIOUS ORGANS, PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES OF UN SYSTEM; (B) COHERENCE OF PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT AND DECISION-MAKING (I.E., AVOID SEPARATION OF OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH); AND (C) FLEXIBILITY OF STRUCTURE. HE SAID FACILITATION OF DIALOGUE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN COST BENEFIT EFFICIENCY AND NON-NEGOTIABLE ISSUES SHOULD BE DECIDED BY MAJORITY VOTE. ECOSOC SHOULD COORDINATE, BUT SHOULD NOT BE BURDENED WITH DETAILED TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH SHOULD BE LEFT TO UNCTAD. FOR THIS, UNCTAD NEEDS ITS OWN "RESEARCH AND INFORMATION FACILITIES." SENIOR PERSONNEL OF UN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (ESA) SHOULD "REFLECT MORE FULLY THE RANGE AND VARIETY OF NATIONAL EXPERIENCES" I.E., HAVE MORE LDC SENIOR APPOINTMENTS.

5. BELGIUM: PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO REFORM OF CENTRAL STRUCTURES (GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ECOSOC), LEAVING REGIONAL AND SECTORAL ACTIVITIES UNTIL LATER. CENTRAL STRUCTURES SHOULD GIVE COHERENT POLICY GUIDANCE TO THE SYSTEM, AND DIVEST THEMSELVES OF SECTORAL AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES. BELGIAN DEL SUPPORTED BERTRAND (JOINT INSPECTION UNIT) PROPOSAL FOR JOINT PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING FOR THE ENTIRE UN SYSTEM, SINCE THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES. HE AGREED WITH EXPERTS THAT SINGLE SECRETARIAT BODY SHOULD DIRECT OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND THAT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS NEED NOT BE REVIEWED AT SO MANY LEVELS BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION. HE ALSO SUPPORTED NEED FOR EVALUATION CAPABILITY.

6. USYG DAVIDSON: EMPHASIZED THAT ANY RESTRUCTURING MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEED FOR SUPPORTING FINANCIAL, PERSONNEL, CONFERENCES, LEGAL AND INFORMATION SERVICES, IN ORDER TO RESPOND TO NEW REQUIREMENTS.

7. UPU (UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION): REP HAD NOTHING SIGNIFICANT TO CONTRIBUTE.

8. ESCAP EXEC DIR: EMPHASIZED NEED TO DELEGATE MORE AUTHORITY TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONS.
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